

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following claims are *pending*: 8, 20, 26, 28-30, and 32-37.

The following claims have previously *been cancelled* without prejudice or disclaimer: 1-7, 9-19, 21-25, 27, and 31.

The following claims are *independent*: 8 and 20.

Please *amend* claims 8, 20, 28-29, 34, and 36 as follows per the listing of claims, below; as such, this listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-7. (Canceled)

8. (Currently Amended) An ~~n-tier~~ apparatus for executing and processing financial instrument transactions comprising:

a memory;

a processor disposed in communication with said memory wherein said memory stores a plurality of processor-issuable processing instructions to provide an interaction interface having a plurality of interaction interface mechanisms, comprising:

[[-]] a presentation layer further comprising [[a]] at least one spatially arrangeable workspace;

[[-]] at least one intermediate component layer for supplying information to [[the]] each spatially arrangeable workspace and transferring information from an interface;

[[-]] at least one information source layer for supplying information to said intermediate component and transferring information from said intermediate component;

wherein said spatially arrangeable workspace further comprises at least one sub interface, which sub interface is selected from the group comprising an order entry interface, an order modification interface, an order monitoring interface, an instrument monitoring interface, and a market monitoring interface;

wherein said intermediate component layer is comprised of a plurality of intermediate components selected from a predetermined group of intermediate components, wherein said selection occurs at least in part based upon the sub interface or sub interfaces chosen;

said intermediate components of which said intermediate component layer is comprised including:

(a) a first intermediate component that provides a cache for information concerning financial instruments; and

(b) a second intermediate component that stores user preferences for [[the]] at least one spatially arrangeable workspace;

wherein said user preferences stored in said second intermediate component include at least one of: (i) a layout of [[the]] at least one spatially arrangeable workspace; and (ii) a color scheme; wherein [[said]] at least one spatially arrangeable workspace comprises a plurality of windows.

9-19. (Canceled)

20. (Currently Amended) A ~~not~~ processor implemented method for executing and processing financial instrument transactions comprising:

[[-]]displaying by a processor a presentation layer further comprising [[a]] at least one spatially arrangeable workspace;

[[-]]supplying information to an interface and transferring information from the interface through at least one intermediate component layer;

[[-]]supplying information to said intermediate component layer and transferring information from said intermediate component layer through at least one information source layer;

wherein said spatially arrangeable workspace further comprises at least one sub interface, which sub interface is selected from the group comprising an order entry interface, an order modification interface, an order monitoring interface, an instrument monitoring interface, and a market monitoring interface;

wherein said intermediate component layer is comprised of a plurality of intermediate components selected from a predetermined group of intermediate components, wherein said selection occurs at least in part based upon the sub interface or sub interfaces chosen;

said intermediate components of which said intermediate component layer is comprised including:

(a) a first intermediate component that provides a cache for information concerning financial instruments; and

(b) a second intermediate component that stores user preferences for [[the]] at least one spatially arrangeable workspace;

wherein said user preferences stored in said second intermediate component include at least one of: (i) a layout of [[the]] at least one spatially arrangeable workspace; and (ii) a color scheme; wherein [[said]] at least one spatially arrangeable workspace comprise a plurality of windows.

21-25. (Canceled)

26. (Previously presented) An apparatus as in claim 8 wherein said sub interface further comprises a window.

27. (Canceled)

28. (Currently Amended) An apparatus as in claim 8 wherein said at least one spatially arrangeable workspace is user configurable.

29. (Currently Amended) An apparatus as in claim 28 wherein said at least one spatially arrangeable workspace has a default configuration.

30. (Previously presented) A method as in claim 20 wherein said sub interface further comprises a window.

31. (Canceled)

32. (Previously presented) A method as in claim 20 wherein said method further comprises the step of trading a financial instrument through said user interface.

33. (Previously presented) A method as in claim 32 wherein said step of trading financial instruments through said user interface further comprises trading said instrument through aggregate pricing of said instrument.

34. (Currently Amended) An apparatus as in claim 8, wherein said user preference for said layout of said at least one spatially arrangeable workspace prescribes a spatially arrangeable workspace layout that varies according to a trading event for a day of the week.

35. (Previously presented) An apparatus as in claim 8, wherein said user preferences stored in said second intermediate component include a color scheme.

36. (Currently Amended) A method as in claim 20, wherein said user preference for said layout of said at least one spatially arrangeable workspace prescribes a spatially arrangeable workspace layout that varies according to a trading event for a day of the week.

37. (Previously presented) A method as in claim 20, wherein said user preferences stored in said second intermediate component include a color scheme.